

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 /096 W

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R 191450Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3004

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION USBERLIN

HQ USEUCOM

HQ USAREUR

UNCLAS STUTTGART 0927

FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: BAADER-MEINHOF

REF: STUTTGART 0905

1. SUMMARY: FORMER BAADER-MEINHOF DEFENSE LAWYER KLAUS CROISSANT REARRESTED EVENING 17 JULY FOLLOWING REVELATIONS FORMER ANARCHIST GERHARD MUELLER REPORTED REFTEL. MUELLER TESTIMONY CONFIRMED MUCH ALREADY KNOWN RE CENTRAL CROISSANT ROLE IN BAADER-MEINHOF INFORMATION SYSTEM AND PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES. STUTTGART PROSECUTORS APPARENTLY BELIEVE DANGER OF CROISSANT GOING UNDERGROUND VERY HIGH AND HE NOT LIKELY TO BE RELEASED SOON. SOME OBSERVERS SPECULATING THAT MUELLER TESTIMONY PROVIDED CONVENIENT

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EXCUSE TO AGAIN TAKE CROISSANT INTO CUSTODY SINCE OTHER,

MORE IMPORTANT EVIDENCE ALREADY AVAILABLE TO JUSTIFY SUCH ACTION. END SUMMARY.

2. TWO DAYS AFTER THE SERIOUS CHARGES BY "CROWN" WITNESS GERHARD MUELLER AGAINST TEN BAADER-MEINHOF LAWYERS, THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE CHARGED CROISSANT WITH SUPPORT OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION AND REARRESTED HIM DURING THE NIGHT OF SATURDAY, JULY 17. PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ALREADY WELL AWARE THAT CROISSANT HAD PRETTY MUCH TAKEN OVER B-M INFORMATION SYSTEM AND PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES FORMERLY CARRIED OUT BY HAMBURG DEFENSE LAWYER GORENEWOLD.

3. IN 260-PAGE BILL OF INDICTMENT, CROISSANT IS ACCUSED OF HAVING MISUSED HIS POSITION AS DEFENSE LAWYER TO SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BAADER-MEINHOF GANG EVEN AFTER THE ARREST OF THE LEADING GANG MEMBERS. TOGETHER WITH OTHER DEFENSE LAWYERS, HE IS ACCUSED OF HAVING ORGANIZED AN INFORMATION SYSTEM BETWEEN THE GANG AND SYMPATHIZERS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE PRISON. ACCORDING TO MATERIAL SEIZED RECENTLY, THE ACCUSED PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THIS INFORMATION SYSTEM AND IN PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK OF THE ARRESTED ANARCHISTS. CROISSANT IS ALSO ACCUSED OF HAVING CARRIED OUT EXACT ORDERS FROM ANDREAS BAADER TO CREATE SYMPATHY IN THE PUBLIC AND ESPECIALLY IN CIRCLES SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS THE GANG.

4. CROISSANT, WHO HAD LOST HIS MANDATE IN THE STUTTGART B-M TRIAL, HAS BEEN DEFENSE LAWYER IN THE DUESSELDORF "STOCKHOLM TRIAL" AGAINST THE ACCUSED WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ATTACK ON THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN SWEDEN IN MAY, 1975.

5. COMMENT: THERE IS SOME SPECULATION THAT LOCAL AUTHORITIES HAD HESITATED TO MOVE AGAINST CROISSANT FOR FEAR OF INTERNATIONAL LEFTIST REACTION, BUT THAT MUELLER TESTIMONY GAVE THEM THE OPENING THEY NEEDED. THE SHIFT OF CONTROL FROM GROENEWOLD TO CROISSANT APPARENTLY CONVINCED SECURITY OFFICIALS OF INCREASED LIKELYHOOD THAT CROISSANT MIGHT FOLLOW EXAMPLE OF COLLEAGUES LANG AND HAAG AND GO UNDERGROUND. SINCE FEAR OF INCREASED TERRORIST

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ACTIVITY STILL RELATIVELY HIGH, CROISSANT NOT LIKELY TO BE RELEASED SOON. JENKINS

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